



Today, we are urging every resident to help in the fight against COVID-19.

Like many communities, West Hartford is having difficulty sourcing adequate personal protective equipment for our first responders. We need all residents to search their homes and businesses for personal protective equipment, and to donate items that are in new or unused condition to the Town for use by our police, firefighters, and paramedics.

Specifically, we need N95 face masks, surgical masks, face shields and Tyvek suits. Some of these items, especially N95 masks, are manufactured for use in construction and other industrial type jobs that expose workers to dust and small particles. You may have them in your house or business for home improvement projects or cleaning. Anyone involved in the construction trades is especially likely to have products that are useful. If you have the ability to sew, would create masks for us? [Click here for a CDC-approved pattern.](#)

We are also in need of bleach, hand sanitizer, cleaning rags, towels, heavy duty contractor/lawn bags, and trial-size personal toiletries for quarantined first responders.

We have a critical shortage of these items, and we have been told that it will be two-to-four weeks before we receive this much needed protective gear.

Currently, we have twelve first responders in quarantine as a result of helping residents who are infected with COVID-19. Each time one of our first responders is pulled off the line, it stresses the entire emergency system. Eventually, this could delay response times, and force us to make difficult decisions about how to prioritize emergency calls. Keeping our first responders safe keeps YOU safe.

To make a donation, place your item in a plastic bag and bring it to Public Works, 17 Brixton Street, Fire Department headquarters, 95 Raymond Road, or the Police Department, 103 Raymond Road Place the bag in the designated container. Containers will be available Monday through Friday, 6:30AM to 3:30 PM.

The road to recovery will be long, and things are going to get worse before they get better. However, we will overcome this unprecedented crisis by working in partnership to help our neighbors, family and friends. We are all in this together, and everyone must be part of the solution. Thank you to all for your continued good will and generosity.

###

MEDIA CONTACTS

- John Phillips, Director of Public Works, johnp@westhartfordct.gov, 860-561-8101
- Greg Priest, Fire Chief & Emergency Management Director, greg.priest@westhartfordct.gov, 860-561-8307
- Bob McCue, Deputy Director, Emergency Management, robert.mccue@westhartfordct.gov, 860-561-8310

SUMMARY

Items needed: (New or Unused Condition)

N95 masks

Face/Surgical Masks

Face Shields

Tyvek suits

Bleach

Hand sanitizer

Cleaning Wipes (Clorox, Lysol)

Cleaning rags

Towels

Heavy duty contractor/lawn bags

Trial-size personal toiletries for quarantined first responders

Donation Preparation:

Place your item(s) in a plastic bag.

Place it in the designated container at the two locations listed below

Place bleach outside of container

Drop-off Locations:

Monday-Friday, 6:30AM to 3:30 PM

- Fire Headquarters, 95 Raymond Road
- Police Department, 103 Raymond Road
- Department of Public Works, 17 Brixton Street